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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
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SUBJECT: "Protecting Floors"...Information from the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station.

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What is so disheartening to a homemaker as a black mark on a floor? Especially a black mark caused by composition soles and heels of wartime shoes. Well...as any homemaker will agree...not many things are more disheartening.

But floors can be protected against these marks. And the home equipment specialists of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station have run tests to find the surest ways to protect them. They've reduced the procedure to six or seven steps.

First...take up all the loose dirt on your floor by sweeping and dust mopping.

Next...wipe the floor with a clean cloth wrung from lukewarm water and borax soap solution. Rub stubborn spots until they're out.

Third...wipe the floor with a clean cloth wrung out in lukewarm water.

Then wipe with a dry cloth to take up all possible moisture.

Fifth...let the floor dry completely without walking on it.

Sixth...refinish with the original finish if the floor needs it. That means repainting, varnishing or shellacing when necessary. Be sure the floor dries out completely before you go on to the last step in case you do refinish it.

The last step puts a protective coating over the floor...keeps scuff marks off and makes it easier to remove those that do appear. You apply a thin coat of good water emulsion wax with a cloth or applicator. Let it dry for thirty minutes. And put on another coat. Three to five coats of wax will give an excellent wearing surface to your floors...and the black marks that are made on the waxed floor come up with only a light burnishing...or rubbing with a clean cloth dampened in the water emulsion wax.

